COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Canalised import turnover target set by STC for 1992-93 was Rs. 733.00 crores.

(b) Total turnover of STC during the year 1992-93 is about Rs. 1,013.00 crores as compared to Rs. 1,315.00 crores during 1991-92. The decline in turnover is mainly attributable to lower canalised turnover on account of decanalisation of several export/import items and the reduced imports of edible oils, due to enhanced domestic availability.

Consequent upon the decanalisation of import and export of a number of items hitherto canalised through STC, Govt, have been reviewing the need to re-orient and re-structure STC in a manner consistent with the liberalised economy and the competitive environment. STC itself is in the process of formulating and implementing plans and strategies to adapt to the current environment laying greater emphasis on non canalised exports and imports and aims to achieve a turnover of Rs. 1.825.00 crores during the current financial year.

Indo-Pak Trade Relations

3159. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual Indo-Pak Trade in terms of rupees during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 and what are the principal items of exports to and imports from Pakistan:

(b) whether Government consider the Indo-Pak bilateral trade discriminatory in so far as India is concerned; and

(c) if so, what are the implications involved and what efforts have been made by Government to and the discriminatory trade relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The annual Indo-Pak Trade in terms of rupee during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 is as follows:—

(Rs. In lakhs)

	Export to Pakistan	Import from Pakistan
1989-90 . . .	5:39.005	53~8.76
1990-91 . . .	7360.36	8448.72
1991-92 . . .	9360 63	14997.14

The principal items of export to Pakistan from India during the last three years consisted of tea, spices, iron ore. drugs, pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals, dyes paints/enamels etc. The items imported during the last three years from Pakistan mainly consisted of fruits & nuts excluding cashewnuts, wool raw, oil seeds, textile yarn, fabrics, made-ups articles etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Pakistan's policy to import from India is discriminatory since they allow selected number of items for being imported from India whereas India has accorded treatment of 'Most Favoured Nation' (MFN) to Pakistan to import from Pakistan. Accordingly, the balance of trade between India and Pakistan is not favourable to India.

In the second and third meeting of the Sub-Commission of Trade of Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission held in August, 1987 and July, 1989 respectively, India requested that MFN treatment should be accorded to Indian exporters bv Pakistan in accordance with their obligations under GATT in order to facilitate free comoetition with other countries in items being imoorted by Pakistan. Further, India offered to send a delegation to Pakistan in the field of tea and textile machinery/components. It also suwested co-operation in the field of automotive comnortents. In the third meeting of the Sub-Commission on Trade of Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission held in July, 1989. It was agreed to set up Joint Business Council and also to exchange delegations between the two countries to promote trade in a wide range of products as well as participation in trade fairs.

Visakhapatnam Export Procsssiag Zone

3160. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has delayed in issuing notifications for Visakhpnat-nam Exoort Processing Zone (VEPZ) under Customs Act and Central Excise Act as free Trade Zone:

(b) whether Government received repre sentation from the Government of A.P. for issuing the said notification; and

(c) when such notification is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFATRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHAR OF THE MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir. The requirement of such a notification would arise only after zone units are approved and begin to effect imports;

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Issue of Customs and Central Excise Notifications for declaring Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone as a bonded area has been taken up with the Department of Revenue and the same is expected to issue shortly.

इराक सरकार पर बकाया राशियां

3161. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश की विभिन्न सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं की बड़ी-बड़ी राशियां इराक सरकार पर बकाया हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि सरकार द्वारा इस प्रयोजनार्थ गठित ओवरसीज कंस्ट्रक्शन काउंसिल आफ इंडिया की गत माहों में बैठक हुई थी ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि लगभग 2100 करोड़ रुपए की बड़ी धनराशि को वसूल करने में सरकार की मदद की आवश्यकता अनुभव की जा रही है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) से (ग) जी हां ;

(घ) भारत सरकार तथा इराक के बीच आस्थगित भुगतान प्रबंधों के तहत इराक से तेल की खरीद के बदले तेल भुगतानों के कुछ अंश का समायोजन उस राशि के प्रति कर दिया गया था जिसका भुगतान उन परियोजना नियंत्रकों को किया जाना था जिन्होंने इराक में परियोजनाएं निष्पादित की थीं । खाड़ी संकट आरंभ होने तथा संयुक्त राष्ट्र व्यापार रोक लगाए जाने से कच्चे तेल का आयात नहीं किया जा सका और इसलिए अगस्त, 1990 से आस्थगित भुगतान प्रबंध के तहत कोई भुगतान वसूल नहीं किये जा सके । सरकार ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद समिति के साथ जनवरी, 1991 में इस संभावना के बारे में मामला उठाया था कि इराक भारत को भारतीय निर्माण कंपनियों को दी जाने वाली बकाया राशि के बदले में तेल उपलब्ध कराए । तथापि, उनकी प्रतिक्रिया अनुकूल नहीं रही । सरकार इराक पर से संयुक्त राष्ट्र व्यापार रोक उठाए जाने के बाद इराक भुगतान प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रबंध की व्यवस्था कर सकती है ।

Associate Chambers of Commerce and Industry Statement on Export Target

3162. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported state ments of Associate Chambers of Com merce and Industry stating that India can double its exports by 1995-96 if impediments are removed;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon; and

(c) what steps are . proposed to be taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) A paper on 'Doubling Exports' in five Select Focus Product Groups by 1996-97' was circulated as a backgrounder for a Seminar on the subject organised by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India in New Delhi on 14th August, 1993.

(b) and (c) Government is always responsive to suggestions that are con ducive to growth in exports. Steps are taken whenever necessary to remove the problems brought up by trade and industry.

Export of Cigarettes

3163. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact U.S. cigarette manufacturers enhanced their exports to Japan from 3 billion pieces to 60 billion pieces between 1987 and 1992;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indian premium brands of cigarettes are more price competitive as compared to their American counterparts;

(c) if so, what are our cigarette exports to Japan for the last three years;

(d) whether it is a fact that our domestic cigarette manufacturers are not entering Japan and other markets of advanced countries, since their parent